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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Hisatoshi HIROTA**

Group Art Unit: **3751**

Serial No.: **10/617,741**

Examiner: **Huyen D. Le**

Filed: **July 14, 2003**

Confirmation No.: **3647**

For: **CONSTANT FLOW RATE EXPANSION VALVE**

Attorney Docket Number: **030793**

Customer Number: **38834**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 19, 2005

Sir:

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached Combined Form PTO/SB/08A and B. This paper is being filed within the time periods set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b). A copy of each non-U.S. document is enclosed herewith.

Each listed document was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office and the communication was not received by any person defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than 30 days before filing of this paper.

The documents are cited in the Search Report of the corresponding European patent application. A copy of the Search Report is also attached.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge Deposit
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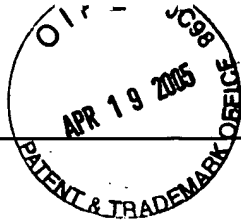
Respectfully submitted,
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen G. Adrian', is written over the printed name.

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SGA/mk

Enclosures: Combined Form PTO/SB/08 A and B
European Search Report & 1 Reference



Combined Form PTO/SB/08 A and B				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/617,741
<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> (use as many sheets as necessary)				Confirmation Number	3647
				Filing Date	July 14, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Hisatoshi HIROTA
				Art Unit	3751
				Examiner Name	Huyen D. Le
				Attorney Docket Number	030793
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
	1	US 5,117,647		06-02-1992	Danfoss A/S
	2	US 2002/0053652		05-09-2002	Paul W. Freisinger et al.
		US			
		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
	3	JP	2001/153495		06-08-2001	TGK CO., LTD.	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.
¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.